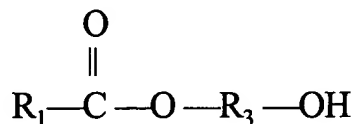
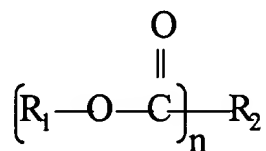
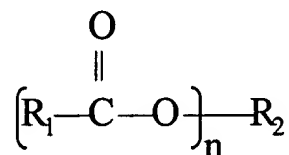
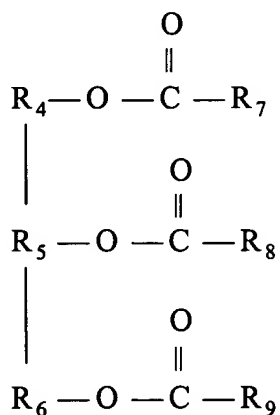


Appendix A  
Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

1. (Amended) A gel composition, comprising:  
an ester compound; and  
a polymer compound having at least one rigid block and one elastic block selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,  
wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils,  
wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:



or



wherein  $n=1, 2, 3$ , and  $4$ , and

$R_1$  includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl;  $R_2$  includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and  $R_3$  includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ , and  $R_6$  individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.

20. (Amended) A gel composition, comprising:

a compound selected from the group consisting of alcohols, ethers, ~~naturally occurring fats and oils~~, and combinations thereof; and

a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of diblock copolymers, triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof.

25. (Amended) A method of making a gel composition, comprising:

mixing an ester compound with a polymer compound having at least one rigid block and one elastic block selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,

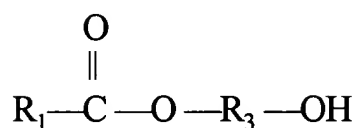
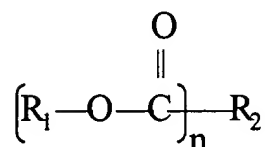
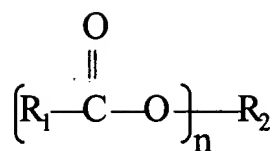
heating the mixture;

agitating the mixture until the mixture becomes homogeneous; and

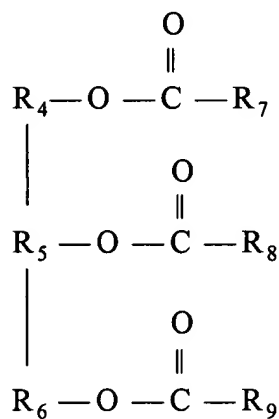
cooling the mixture,

wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils,

wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:



or



wherein n=1, 2, 3, and 4, and

R<sub>1</sub> includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl; R<sub>2</sub> includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and R<sub>3</sub> includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.

26. (Amended) A method of making a gel composition, comprising:  
mixing an alcohol, an ether, and combinations thereof ~~or a naturally occurring fat or oil~~ with  
a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of diblock copolymers, triblock  
copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,  
heating the mixture;  
agitating the mixture until the mixture becomes homogeneous; and  
cooling the mixture.